

CLAIMS

5 1. Protective helmet (1) of the type including a main outer shell (2) constituted by a wall (5) having a front facial opening (3), characterized in that the rear lower portion (8) of the wall (5) includes resilient bending means (13, 14a, 14b, 14'a, 14'b).

2. Protective helmet (1) according to claim 1, characterized in that the wall (5) of the main outer shell (2) is made out of a deformable material.

10 3. Protective helmet (1) according to claim 2, characterized in that the wall (5) of the outer shell (2) is made out of a plastic material.

15 4. Protective helmet (1) according to claim 2, characterized in that the wall of the outer shell (2) is made out of a composite material.

20 5. Protective helmet (1) according to claim 4, characterized in that the composite material is of the type constituted by at least one layer of glass fibers and/or carbon fibers and/or aramid fibers impregnated with a thermoplastic or thermohardening resin.

25 6. Protective helmet (1) according to ^{claim 1} ~~any of the preceding claims~~, characterized in that the main outer shell (2) includes a plurality of wall portions, namely, an upper front wall portion (6) extended rearwardly by an upper rear wall portion (7), which is itself extended downwardly by a lower rear wall portion (8) limited downwardly by a lower edge (12), and in that said lower rear wall portion (8) includes at least one cutout opening (13, 14a, 14b).

30 7. Protective helmet (1) according to claim 6, characterized in that the cutout (13, 14a, 14b) opens downwardly on the lower edge (12).

8. Protective helmet (1) according to claim 7, characterized in that the lower rear wall portion (8) includes two lateral cutouts (14'a, 14'b).

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5 9. Protective helmet (1) according to claim 7, characterized in that the lower rear wall portion (8) includes three openings or cutouts (13, 14a, 14b) having the form of open slits on the lower edge, namely, one central cutout (13) and two lateral cutouts (14a, 14b) which thus form two deformable tongues (15a, 15b) and two deformable lateral wall pieces (16a, 16b).

10. Protective helmet (1) according to claim 9, characterized in that the three cutouts (13, 14a, 14b) have the same length (L).

10 11. Protective helmet (1) according to claim 9, characterized in that the central cutout (13) has a different length than the lateral cutouts (14'a, 14'b).

9 12. Protective helmet (1) according to ^{claim 10} ~~any of claims 10 or 11~~, characterized in that the three cutouts (13, 14a, 14b) have the same width (l).

15 13. Protective helmet (1) according to ^{claim 10} ~~any of claims 10 or 11~~, characterized in that the central cutout (13) has a different width than the lateral cutouts (14'a, 14'b).

9 14. Protective helmet (1) according to ^{claim 1} ~~any of the preceding claims~~, characterized in that it includes a nape cushion (17) partially held in the shell by the cutouts (13, 14a, 14b) of the wall.

20 15. Protective helmet (1) according to claim 14, characterized in that at least one projection (20, 20a, 20b) affixed to the nape cushion (17) is provided and is adapted to
25 cooperate with one of the corresponding cutouts (13, 14a, 14b) to be held therein.

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